



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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District 4

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District 5

April 9, 2025

Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials
Thurston County
3000 Pacific Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Honorable Members of the Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials,

On behalf of the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners, we want to thank you for your service and for the thoughtful, balanced approach you bring to setting salaries for elected officials. Your work is critical to ensuring fairness and transparency in public service compensation.


As you are aware, Thurston County is currently facing a significant and ongoing budget shortfall. Departments are preparing for potential reductions in services and operational adjustments in response to these financial constraints. These are not easy conversations, and the financial challenges ahead will require careful stewardship, collaboration, and shared sacrifice across the organization.

In light of these circumstances, **we respectfully request that the Commission not approve any salary increase for the Board of County Commissioners this year, and do not make recommendations to increase salaries for the other county elected officials.** While we fully recognize the importance of maintaining appropriate and competitive compensation for elected officials, we believe that now is a time for restraint and leadership by example. Standing with our employees during this difficult time is both the right thing to do and an important message to send to our workforce and the public we serve.

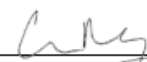
Additionally, we are mindful of the long-term fiscal sustainability of the county. Deferring salary increases at this time is one of many steps we must take to ensure the responsible use of public resources and the stability of essential county services.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and for your ongoing commitment to this important work.


Sincerely,




Tye Menser, Chair




Carolina Mejia, Commissioner



Emily Clouse, Commissioner



Wayne Fournier, Vice-Chair



Rachel Grant, Commissioner